Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CGEN, PINS, IN SUBJECT: DWIVEDI CASE

REF: 76 NEW DELHI 18495

1. M.L. LAHOTY, ATTORNEY REPRESENTING RANJAN DWEVEDI IN RAY CASE, TOLD CONS OFFICER JAN. 20 THAT THE HEARING ON DWEVEDI'S BAIL REQUEST WILL BE JAN. 21. LAHOTY THINKS THAT BAIL WILL PROBABLY BE GRANTED. WHILE THIS HAS NO DIRECT BEARING ON DWEVEDI, NOW IN JAIL IN PATNA, IT COULD BE THE BASIS ON WHICH A PATNA COURT WOULD GRANT HIM B-CLASS TREATMENT (HE IS NOW IN C-CLASS) AND POSSIBLY ALSO PAROLE "FOR A FORTNIGHT" OUT OF JAIL, BEFORE HIS NEW TRIAL BEGINS.

- 2. LAHOTY HAS HEARD FROM RANJAN DWEVEDI SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN PATNA. IN HIS LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY DWEVEDI COMPLAINED ABOUT JAIL FOOD, LACK OF WARM CLOTHING, AND HIS INABILITY TO MEET WITH COUNSEL. LAHOTY SAIS THAT POSSIBLY OUT OF FEAR OF GOVERNMENT REPRISAL AND BECAUSE DWEVEDI IS NOT PERSONALLY KNOWN IN PATNA, NO SUPREME COURT LAWYER HAS VOLUNTEERED TO HELP HIM, THOUGH SEVERAL OF LESSER RANK HAVE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST ON THE CASE.
- 3. LAHOTY AND DWEVEDI'S FORMER SENIOR COLLEAGUE, V.M. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARKUNDE, PLAN TO DEPART FOR PATNA SOON TO CONFER WITH DWEVEDI AND ATTORNEYS THERE REGARDING THE MISHRA CASE WHICH LAHOTY EXPECTS WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY. LAHOTY AND TARKUNDE ARE PREPARED TO ASSIST IN PATNA WITH DWEVEDI'S DEFENSE IN THIS TRIAL.

4. LAHOTY SAYS THAT WHILE THEY ARE ASKING NO FEES, FUFES

ARE NEEDED FOR TRANSPORT, LODGING AND LEGAL EXPENSES IN PATNA AND ASKS THAT MRS. DWEVEDI BE ADVISED THAT AT LEAST \$150 IS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY.

5. LAHOTY WILL ADVISE US TOMORROW ON RESULTS OF THE BAIL HEARING. SCHNEIDER

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